



FARMER MUST WORK OUT HIS OWN SALVATION

(Written Specially for The Bulletin)

Farm or farmers' organizations are getting so numerous these days, that it is difficult to keep track of them all. Of course, they are all good, but I confess that I don't know what the National Board of Farm Organizations is, for instance. But its secretary, Charles Lyman, states that it has two million members. If that be true it is quite a bunch. Especially if they are all practical farmers.

However, I am just at this minute less interested in this "national board," or in its possible size than I am in a fresh illustration which Secretary Lyman has just sent out of where the money goes. We farmers know from sad experience that when we want to buy something at the store—something made or produced elsewhere—we have to pay an exorbitant price. We pay a price that is not only a price, but when we have something of our own to sell we can't get any better if an good price as we get before the war. Everything we must buy, it seems, everything we can sell is cheap.

Now, to say, the city workman who helps make some of the goods we have to buy and who has to buy some of the things we produce, makes an exactly similar complaint. He is tremendously overcharged for products originating on the farm, yet, at the same time, gets no fair proportion of the price which farmers eventually pay for the goods he helps manufacture.

Secretary Lyman has made a little computation, based on these assertions, and the facts they enabled him to bring to light. Taking present prices for both farm-produced goods and farm-consumed goods, he finds that when a farmer pays \$100 for some shop or factory-made commodity he pays on an average \$55 for the commodity he buys and \$45 to the retailer and the profits that pass to him.

Per contra, when the city workman who helped make the commodities which the farmer bought purchases for his own family's consumption the worth of food products, which the farmer produced, he pays \$45 to the retailer and the in-between profits, and only \$55 ever reaches the farmer.

Thus, says Mr. Lyman, "out of the \$200 spent—\$100 by the city man and \$100 by the farmer—other businesses net \$157 for merely moving around the commodities between them." This leaves only \$43 actually paid for the goods themselves.

All of this is just a fresh illustration, in slightly different terms, of the old complaint against our existing system of distribution. We are, in fact, overcharged for products originating on the farm, yet, at the same time, get no fair proportion of the price which farmers eventually pay for the goods he helps manufacture.

But when you come to the next stage, that of distribution, you get into a tangled mass which is neither efficient nor economical, nor even tolerable. It is a labyrinthine No-Thoroughfare. It is a mammoth Circumlocution Office. It is the most imposing example in all modern life of how not to do it.

It is not efficient, for it does not bring the producer and consumer within the reach of each other. Instead, it holds them constantly farther and farther apart, and throws ever increasing difficulties in the way of their meeting. It is not economical, for it charges you more for merely passing the cup into your hands than the total value of cup and contents, but more than cup and contents both cost it to start with.

It has finally become so intolerable that revolt is springing up in many different quarters. Almost all the farm organizations to which I have referred are born in hostility to it and nurtured in its fight against it. Here and there distinctly "labor" organizations are also beginning to desert their real enemy and to aim their blows at it.

by offering forty cents what can Aroostook farmer do then, poor thing?

If he were conducting a more diversified system had a certain amount of livestock for instance, he could get some sort of salvage from the wreck of his hopes, by feeding out those unsalable tubers. They are quite as good food for animals as for human beings. Not a perfect food for either, of course, but filling and nourishing.

For milk cows I have found raw potatoes an admirable substitute for grain. I do not raise many potatoes. But last year, when the price of grain was so high, I had some potatoes, and I found that they were quite as good as grain for my cows.

Specialized farming has much to be said for it. There are, also, some things to be said against it. The judicious farmer will look fairly at both sides of the question.

Similarly, organization may be argued for with sincerity and much force. But it isn't an automatic, self-acting panacea for all economic difficulties. When it combines existing individual effort into one long and strong pull it helps amazingly. When, however, it leads individuals to a relaxation of personal effort through dependence upon it, then it does as much harm as good.

The fact still remains and is likely to for a long time to come that the farmer must work out his own salvation for himself and, largely, by himself.

Just as a matter of reasonable prudence, he had better learn to swim before he trusts himself to anybody's raft on no matter that pond or stream. The knowledge will encourage him to do better work as one of the crew, and may enable him to get ashore if the raft should happen to collapse in deep water.

Every inventor worthy of the name has produced at least one car coupler.

WOODSTOCK VALLEY
Mrs. and Miss Mearl of Woonsocket are guests at Allen Kenyon's. Howard Starr and bride of New Haven are spending four weeks at Crystal Lake. Fred Wrentham of Barrington, visited friends in this valley on Monday.

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NIANTIC

R. B. S. Washburn has purchased a building lot in the grove adjoining the riverbank and has already broken ground for the erection of a cottage.

Mrs. Hespsey Boden of Williamantic has arrived at the grove for the season.

Mrs. J. A. Glass and children of New London are at the Sherman cottage.

Mrs. Frank Sherman will leave soon for her home in New London after a visit of several weeks at her Pine Grove cottage.

Thomas Washburn and his assistant, Archie Sanders, are shingling the Eager cottage in the grove.

Mr. and Mrs. Nathan A. Whipple and son Roland, who have been visiting Mr. and Mrs. M. Case in the grove for several weeks, left Tuesday for their home in Bridgeport.

Dr. and Mrs. A. Thompson of New Britain are at their Pine Grove cottage for a few days.

The Niantic Sunshine society met on Wednesday afternoon with the Pine Grove members of the society and were entertained at the summer home of Mrs. George W. Steele.

Harold Menard of Bridgeport made a short visit to his summer home in the grove Monday.

Henry Hamilton has returned to his home in Yantic after visiting P. N. Park at the grove. Mr. Park made a good catch of blue crabs from the waters of the Niantic river one day recently.

Mrs. Amelia Bellnap has gone to her home in Bridgeport for a visit.

Several members of Nehantia troop of Girl Scouts went to Black Hall Tuesday and joined the troop there in charge of Miss H. C. Johnson.

The Ladies Aid society of Pine Grove Spiritualist camp announces for the season of 1921 the following list of speakers: July 2, William C. Whitney of Springfield, Mass.; July 9, Rev. Millicent Wilson of Malden, Mass.; July 17 to 24, inclusive, Mrs. Isabel Bradley of Boston, Mass.; Aug. 7, Miss Annie C. Chapman of Dorchester, Mass.; Aug. 14, Rev. Isabella B. Sears Hill of Boston; Aug. 21, Mrs. Nellie Holt Harding of West Somerville, Mass.; Aug. 28, Rev. Millicent Wilson of Malden, Mass.

The Pine Grove electric street lights were turned on Tuesday evening for the remainder of the season. The new lights are an added attraction to the grove.

Mrs. Fred Prothero of Broadway is entertaining Mrs. Harriet Rathbun of Holyoke, Mass., for several weeks.

Henry Prothero of Springfield, Mass., has arrived at the grove for the season. He has taken up work at the pavilion.

Mrs. William H. Prothero has gone to Canaan to spend a week with her daughter.

Neelson Bishop has returned to his home in West Hartford after spending two weeks in the grove.

Mrs. A. W. Tremblin and Mrs. William Appleby of St. Paul, Minn., are making a short visit to Ocean Beach. On Tuesday they entertained Mrs. Adam F. Bishop of Niantic at luncheon.

CHESTNUT HILL

All have welcomed the plentiful showers of the past week, which have been very refreshing.

Harold Chappell and John Calkins of Waterford visited the former's uncle, G. T. Chappell, on Sunday.

Mrs. William H. Peckham of Williamantic spent Wednesday with her sister-in-law, Mrs. A. S. Peckham.

Mrs. George Hoaxie of Babcock Hill, Lebanon, with her two children, was a recent caller on her former school friend, Mrs. Helma Chappell.

Mrs. Wilfred Davoli and daughter, Mildred and Blanch, of Mansfield spent Wednesday with relatives here.

R. H. Reynolds, who has been in Holyoke for the past two weeks, spent a night at W. W. Palmer's this week on his way for a trip in the southern states.

Mrs. W. D. Davoli went to Andover on Wednesday afternoon, returning with her aunt, Mrs. Willard Fuller. Mrs. Fuller is now visiting her brother, Milo S. Davoli, at Camers.

Leland E. Moffitt, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward L. Moffitt of Hartford, formerly of Lebanon, was graduated from the Hartford High school June 23d with a class that numbered over 400. He is 16 years of age and began his school work in the Village Hill school in Lebanon.

Central Village school, room 3, Miss Abbie L. Medbery, teacher: Russell Davis, Ruth Loring, Harry Stornell.

Room 2, Miss Freda Ryers, teacher: Lloyd Babcock, Jennie Beauregard, Dorothy Carpenter, Eunice Cook.

Room 14, Miss Alice E. Ray, teacher: Evelyn Brown, Everett Collins, Thomas Dixon, Mildred Gowan Henry Ricewna.

Room 1, Miss Fanny B. Brown, teacher: Robert Burns, Frank Laureckle.

Room 1, Miss Mae A. Kennedy, teacher: Irene Brown, Viola Dickey, Leslie Gauthier, May Ricewasser.

Waukegan school, room 2, Earle E. Joy, teacher: May Leary, James Burns, Walter Frisbie, Vladimir Kozetz, Owen Fryling.

Room 5, Miss Mary L. P. Coe, teacher: Rosamond Danielson, Rose Gallow, Ruth Gallow, Viola Treoning.

Room 4, Miss Nellie Driscoll, teacher: Stella Blinnick, Angeline Galloway, Roman Jarczyk, Mary Kaula, Raymond Keller, Charles E. Trichin, Evelyn Treoning, Della Vitagliano.

Room 3, Miss Lilla S. Millett, teacher: Gerard Barnier, Rosario Brouillard, Hil-da Doringier, Flora Jallan, John Kerab, Felix Lepack, Mary Lachowicz, Ruth Wilson.

Room 2, Miss A. Estelle Jones, teacher: John Baiger, Rose Goodman, Sophia Jorocz, Matthew Mroz, Everett Still, Mary Kozetz, Constantine.

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Room 6, Miss Mattie E. Gibson, teacher: Delphis Coderre, Anna Mroz.

Plainfield school, room 3, Cecil L. Butler, principal, Mary Clark, Anita Curry, teacher: Malcolm Hutchinson.

Room 7, Miss Florence M. Omlendok, teacher: Dolmas Jarvis, Donald Kee, Irene Seney.

Room 6, Miss Helen F. Doyle, teacher: Edith Collin, Lena Gaudreau.

Room 5, Miss Louise M. Elliott, teacher: Evelyn Warhurst.

Room 2, Miss Mary E. English, teacher: William Lees, Leo Vosper.

Room 1, Miss Ruth H. Clark, teacher: Alice Coulombe.

Plainfield portable school, room 2, Miss Mabel C. Frink, teacher: George

Coulombe, Edmond Davignon.

Plainfield academy school, room 1, Mrs. Alice B. Gallup, teacher: Charles Wilcox.

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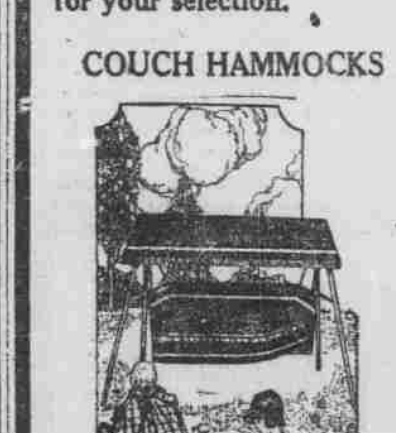
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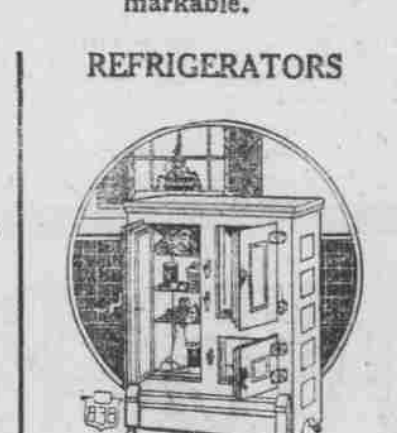
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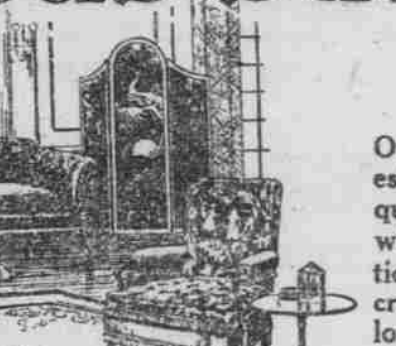
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